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Two little cats had always lived in the same neighbor-hood and naturally being pals for so awfully long they just took a liking to each other which eventually ripened into love.

Ismeralda lived in the household of Old Farmer Al and Oswald was right next door.

Now, for many years, Old Al had never been troubled with mice, cause his faithful pet always had time to take care of all that. But now, it was spring and Ismeralda was getting to the age when she wishes to cast about for herself. And infact, she was looking forward to a little home of her own and kiddies too.

Well, it seemed that in her infatuation for Oswald, she had just naturally neglected the household duties in the farmer house, and he was being very annoyed by mice, they would not even let him take a bath in his own tub. And when he looked for his Ismeralda, he finds her in the arms of her Oswald.

The farmer tried various ways to keep the two lovers apart, but its no use. Then in desperation and disgust, equally mingled, he decides to chase them both out of the country.

They were not more than a half mile away, when it began to rain, followed by thunder and lightning. The two cats escape in a row boat, but the poor farmer decides to swim after.

Then in the midst of the raging stream, with rain pouring down, the poor old rheumatic farmer finds himself making very little progress. Then came a terrific bolt of lightning and hit him on the head, driving him under the water, followed by a down pour of rain. Right then and there he decides to toddle home.

After awhile, he manages to struggle thru the wind and rain and reached the old homestead, thoroughly disgusted and tired. But who should turn up soon after, but his own Ismeralda, who very soon drives all the mice away, then asks the farmer to "meet the Husband". And then the Husband asks him to meet the children. There were only twelve.

This proved too much for the poor old farmer and he drooped in a faint.

AESOP SAYS:

" IT'S A WISE CORK THAT KNOWS ITS OWN POP."

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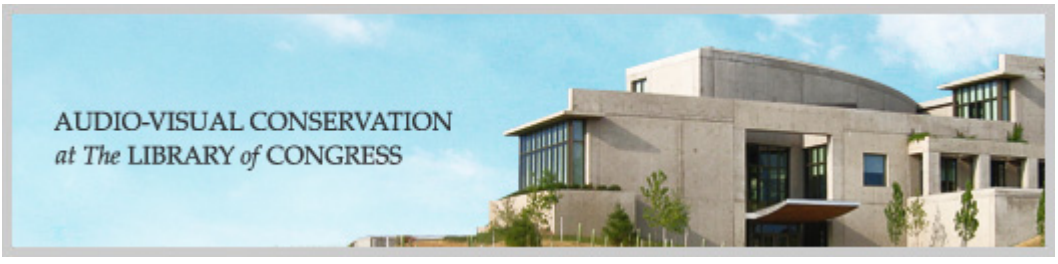

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